

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-04 TRSE-00 NSC-07 SCI-06 OMB-01 SS-20

AGR-20 AID-20 USIE-00 PA-04 PRS-01 L-03 DRC-01 SAM-01

CIEP-02 /168 W

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O 021547Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4898

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

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EO 11652 N/A

TAGS: SNAR, TU

SUBJECT: PRIMIN ECEVIT SPEAKS BEFORE PARLIAMENT ON OPIUM
POPPY CULTIVATION

REF: A) ANKARA 5237 (NOTAL) B) ANKARA 5213

1. PRIMIN ECEVIT, IN EXPLAINING BEFORE PARLIAMENT ON JULY 2 GOVERN-
MENT DECREE TO RESUME OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION (REF A), STRESSED
WILLINGNESS OF GOT TO CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS TO ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE CONTROL MEASURES. HE SAID
THAT, IF PRESENT MEASURES INADEQUATE TO INSURE EFFECTIVE CONTROL,
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GOT WOULD REQUEST PARLIAMENT TO ENACT ADDITIONAL LAWS TO PREVENT

ILLCIT DIVERSION OF OPIUM. ECEVIT REFERRED TO POLICIES OF PREVIOUS TURKISH GOVERNMENTS TO REDUCE NUMBER OF PROVINCES WHERE POPPY CULTIVATION ALLOWED, AND OBSERVED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS PERMITTING CULTIVATION IN ONLY SEVEN PROVINCES ON A LIMITED SCALE.

2. TURK PRIMIN CONTINUED THAT OPIUM BAN IN TURKEY WAS IMPOSED IN 1971 TO PROTECT HEALTH OF HUMANITY, BUT THAT HEALTH OF WORLD POPULATION IS NEGLECTED BECAUSE OF A SHORTAGE OF OPIUM. THIS SHORTAGE, HE STATED, NEEDED TO BE MET.

3. ECEVIT DECLARED THAT ALL POLITICAL PARTIES WERE IN AGREEMENT THAT TOTAL BAN ON OPIUM POPPY CULTIVATION SHOULD BE RESCINDED.

4. HE WENT OVER OLD GROUND IN REMARKING THAT 1971 DECISION WAS A HASTY ONE THAT HAD NOT ALLEVIATED AFFECTED FARMER'S SUFFERING, AND THAT OPIUM POPPY FARMING WAS FOR TURKISH FARMER A WAY OF LIFE AS WELL AS AN ECONOMIC ISSUE.

5. COMMENT: SPEECH WAS RELATIVELY BRIEF (ABOUT 20 MINUTES), VERY BLAND IN TONE, AND CONTAINED FEW DETAILS AS TO PLANS FOR PRODUCTION AND CONTROL. US WAS NOT MENTIONED.

MACOMBER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: shawdg
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Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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